

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 11 and 16 have been amended, and claims 18-20 have been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16, 18-20 are pending and under consideration.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

In the Office Action, at page 3, item 5, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-10 and 12-15 are allowed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action, at page 2, item 4, the Examiner rejected claims 11 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Nunnelley (US 6,778,343 – hereinafter Nunnelley).

The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated.

Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Amended, independent claim 11 recites: "...a magnetic write width measuring unit to determine an amplitude reduction ratio of a target track from the offtrack profile to determine the magnetic write width corresponding to the determined amplitude reduction ratio, the amplitude reduction ratio being determined using output signals corresponding to a target track and tracks adjacent to the target track."

And amended, independent claim 16 recites: "...determining an amplitude reduction ratio of the target track from the offtrack profile and determining the magnetic write width corresponding to the determined amplitude reduction ratio, the amplitude reduction ratio being determined using output signals corresponding to a target track and tracks adjacent to the target track."

Nunnelley discloses a device and method in which written trackwidth is determined by writing a frequency pattern on a single track at a given radius. Then, a read element is moved across the written track, and to written trackwidth is calculated by determining the distance between the two points having one half of the maximum amplitude. (See Nunnelley, at col. 6, lines 19-44.)

In contrast, in the subject application, output signals corresponding to a target track contracts adjacent to the target track are used to determine the magnetic write width.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Nunnelley neither discloses or suggests "a magnetic write width measuring unit to determine an amplitude reduction ratio of a target track from the offtrack profile to determine the magnetic write width corresponding to the determined amplitude reduction ratio, the amplitude reduction ratio being determined using output signals corresponding to a target track and tracks adjacent to the target track."

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 11 and 16 patentably distinguish over the cited art, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons.

NEW CLAIMS:

Applicants respectfully submit that for at least similar reasons as those stated in the section regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102, as well as for the Examiner's stated allowance of claim 12, new claims 18-20 patentably distinguish over the cited art and should be allowable.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

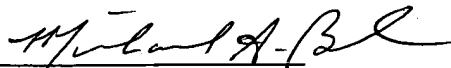
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If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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